

Remarks/Arguments

Reconsideration of this application is requested. This amendment is being filed within two months of the final Office Action mailed on February 1, 2007 and is believed to place the application into condition for allowance. Should the Examiner disagree, applicant requests an Advisory Action at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Claim Status

Claims 10-20, 26 and 27 were previously presented. Claims 1-9, 21-25, 28 and 29 were previously canceled. By this amendment, claims 10-19, 26 and 27 are canceled, without prejudice, and new claims 30-41 are added. Thus, claims 20 and 30-41 are now pending.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 20 is allowed.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC 102 and 103

Claims 13, 15 and 17-19 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Doyle (US 5,602,664). Claims 10-12, 14 and 16 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over Doyle in view of Koinuma (US 5,301,355). Claims 26 and 27 are rejected as obvious over Doyle. In response, claims 10-19, 26 and 27 are canceled, without prejudice.

New Claims

New claims 30-41 depend from claim 20, and thus are allowable for the same reasons as claim 20. Claims 30-41 correspond, respectively, to original dependent claims 2, 3, 15, 16, 21-27 and 29.

Conclusion

This application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned to resolve any issues that remain after consideration and entry of this amendment.


Appl. No. 10/655,809
Amdt. dated March 30, 2007
Reply to Office Action of February 1, 2007

Atty. Ref. 88507.0001
Customer No. 26021

Any fees due with this response may be charged to our Deposit Account No.
50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: March 30, 2007

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